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ABSTRACT

This paper reports on the activities of the IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) Section on Cataloging for 2000-2001. The first part discusses the interest in cataloging and its harmonization at the international level that is shared by libraries throughout the world, including the section's work on development and maintenance of cataloging standards and guidelines. The second part covers membership and the standing committee. The third part describes recent publications, including: "Structures of Corporate Name Headings: Final Report," "Guidelines for Authority Records and References," and journal articles. The fourth part addresses relevant pages on IFLANet (IFLA's World Wide Web site). The final parts describe current and recent projects, including work on ISBD (International Standard Book Description) and FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records). (MES)

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Report of the Activities 2000-2001

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Interest in cataloguing

The interest in cataloguing and for its harmonisation at the international level has been shared for a long time by the libraries throughout the entire world. The Section on Cataloguing is one of the oldest IFLA sections and attracts more and more members.
The goal and focus of work on standardization has been for a long time the Section's main activity, the objective of which is defined in the Medium Term Programme.

In this context the Section has looked at the development and maintenance of cataloguing standards and guidelines for traditional formats, but also has taken into account the revolutionary developments in the digital, electronic, and networked environment in order to promote universal access to and exchange of bibliographic information. The Section has also developed a new view of bibliographic description, based on functional requirements: the famous "FRBR" or Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records. Concerning the usages of computerized catalogues, we took into account this topic by creating the Working Group on Guidelines for OPAC Displays. During the last ten years we took also into account the questions of authority information, harmonization of which is necessary for efficient use all over the world.

The Section worked simultaneously on numerous projects and are able to do this, because the Standing Committee members are numerous and many colleagues from other sections are also involved: we have

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the philosophy of cooperation in the broad sense of this term. In the projects initiated by the Section on Cataloguing we would like to attract other experts in order to cover a maximum of needs.

The Section has close relationships with the IFLA Section on Information Technology, Section on Serials, and of course we do not forget the Sections within our own Division IV : the Section on Bibliography and Section on Classification and Indexing, as well as the UBCIM programme office of IFLA. We deal also with other organizations and institutions including ISO, in particular the Committee TC46, international and national cataloguing and standardization committees, and professional training schools and courses.

Membership and Standing Committee

The Section increased its members by ten per cent : it had 149 members in December 1998 and 163 members in December 2000. For several years now the SC has functioned with IFLA's maximum number of 20 persons (21 between 1999 and 2001), plus corresponding members, the observers, and honorary members, (sometimes as active as the regular members). Several continents are presently represented within the Section and within the Standing Committee, but we would like to expand the participation of members from Asia and Africa. During the IFLA annual conferences, there are always many people in addition to Committee members at our SC meetings: it reflects the popularity of the topics and interest for the questions that are discussed.

Concerning officers : for many years the chair has been from North America (the most recent chairs were : Olivia Madison, USA; Ingrid Parent, Canada; Barbara Tillett, USA), but the Secretary and Information Officer were European (Secretary: Susanne Jouguelet, France; Maria Witt, France) (Information Officer: Kerstin Dahl, Sweden) .
Updated information will be given during the Open Forum of Division IV after the elections during the first meeting of the Standing Committee.

During the year, between annual IFLA conferences, different Working Groups (WG) continue their projects using different means and methods of work : e-mail, fax, snail mail, and also fruitful meetings "face to face". We will have the opportunity during this session, to hear several WG leaders on the projects conducted, so I will not describe them here.

For other details you can consult the written reports, minutes, and presentations given at previous annual conferences ; these documents are available on the IFLAnet in several languages.

The Section attaches a very great importance to the publicity and translation of finished and current projects, as well to the translation of conference presentations. For a long time now, many efforts were devoted to translations and were very fruitful. As a secretary dealing with the organization of this task I would like thank all colleagues and members of the Section who belong to the "official linguistics areas" for their active participation in translating papers of the Open sessions and Workshops. Concerning the French language, I extend great thanks to the other IFLA sections' members but also to other professionals outside IFLA for answering my calls for translation assistance. As a result of their good work, you were the first to know the new papers; it was an advantage! I cannot forget of course those authors, who prepared two linguistic versions by themselves, this fact greatly made easier my task of secretary!

Recent publications

Two "monographs" have been finished since last year.

Final report on the Form and Structure of Corporate Headings [1] published by IFLA and written by Ton Heijligers (Nederlands), is the result of the 6-year WG. After the identification of the most problematic rules of the FSCH guidelines and their comparaison with AACR, RAK, and AFNOR, the group abandonned the idea of updating the FSCH Guidelines and proposed a report on the possibilities of contributing guidance regarding the form and structure of corporate names. This guidance would be available to developers of a future virtual international authority file and people in charge of online catalogs. A virtual international authority file was suggested which could be used by any library. The WG worked in cooperation with the UBCIM programme and with the FRANAR Working Group.

GARR – "Guidelines for Authority Records and References" was published also at the beginning of 2001, led by de Isa de Pinedo (Italy). [2] The objective of this work was to publish a single comprehensive and flexible set of rules, giving examples (covering all materials, especially adding music, electronic resources, and legal works). Two specific issues were considered: legal materials (treaties, laws) and serials. The close and fruitful cooperation with other groups: MLAR and FRANAR, as well as with UBCIM should be noted

Publication of articles : Every year the Section on Cataloguing is well represented in articles in the quarterly published by **UBCIM "International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control" (ICBC)**, including many of the Section's presentations from annual conferences and the papers reporting on progress of the Working Groups. We also have had those topics intended for the larger public presented in the "IFLA Journal" (cf. for example John Byrum's paper on the ISBD review process from the Jerusalem 2000 conference).

The Section's newsletter **" SCATNews "** is published twice a year, in print and electronic form (on the IFLANET web site).

We also continue the cooperation with the journal **"Cataloging and Classification Quarterly" (CCQ)** that was started approximately four years ago. Several of the Section's members belong to the CCQ Editorial Committee.

Pages of the Section on the IFLANet

Since last year the web pages of the Section have been enriched (www.ifla.org/VII/s13/). You will find there the latest news and the texts of standards and guidelines currently on review (see "Announcements"). In the paragraph "Family of ISBDs" which links directly to the UBCIM pages you are presented with the bibliography of ISBDs. There are 19 manifestations in English and citations listed for manifestations in 12 other languages [3] (over 140 references in all). The list of French translations of the ISBDs' contains 14 citations; among them seven are currently in use and can be purchased from the BNF. Other web Cataloguing chapters like "Conferences and Seminars", "Minutes of meetings", "Annual Reports" may complete your documentation.

Among **current projects** you may wish to pay particular attention to two of them which were on world wide reviews last Spring : ISBD(S) and ISBD(M). There is no big revolution from the ISBD (M) side. The objective of this project was to ensure the conformity between the rules of ISBDs and FRBR, in particular for the basic level of national bibliographic records. The eleven major changes in the revision were explained in John Byrum's letter accompanying the review, available on the IFLANet.

In contrast, the new ISBD(S) revision brings new totally concepts that we heard about last year. We will call the new ISBD "continuing resource" (with the suggested acronym, "CR"). These are the things that we used to call "serials" plus "integrating resources." There is also a new concept ISST (International Standard Serial Title – ISST) under discussion. The ISBD(S) revision went beyond the strict limits of IFLA and the Section on Cataloguing and had touched, since the very beginning of the process, other international "communities" concerned with serials : namely AACR and ISSN. We are very satisfied that the goal was achieved. Ingrid Parent, the chair of the Working Group on the ISBD(S) revisions, will talk to you with details on this project during this session (see also "Invitation to review" on the IFLANet).

Among other projects conducted during last year we can mention :
Guideiines for OPAC Displays, the Metadata Schemes, a Multilingual Dictionary for Cataloguing Terms started in 1999, and the long-running project "Anonymous classics".
If I don't speak in detail on all these projects, that's because you will have the occasion to get the information directly from some of the Working Group leaders during this session of the Division (Ingrid Parent – Canada) and during the Open Session of the Section on Wednesday 22 August morning. Monika Münnich (Germany) will speak on the multilingual dictionary project, Françoise Bourdon (France) – will give updated information on FRANAR. The Open session will cover also the subject "After FRBR"- Patrick Le Bœuf (France), and the idea of a virtual international authority file– Barbara Tillett (USA). [4]

During this annual IFLA conference the Section on Cataloguing had planned a workshop on UNICODE, in conjunction with the Section on Information Technology. This topic followed some previous investigations and expressions of interests concerning multilingual issues in bibliographic control, including problems of multiple scripts, the use of catalogues in multilingual environments, and solutions proposed by the technologies and new standards. Unfortunately we were obliged to cancel this session. *(Note : this updated information is not included in original French version of my report, put on the net before the English one.)*

If you desire to get more complete news on other Section's projects, do not hesitate to contact WG's leaders or the Section's officers.

Projects accomplished – impact continues
Before concluding I would like to stop for awhile on one of the most important projects of the Section in the past 10 years, which had a great impact on other works. Its name is The Study on Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR). The final report published in January 1998 defined some follow-up steps, consisting of examining the impact on:

- National bibliographic agencies, individual libraries, cataloguing codes and guidelines, and teaching of cataloging;
- ISBD's and their evolution; and
- Authority control.

These suggestions were broadly covered throughout the entire world. In January 2000 " there were more than 100 references to FRBR in documents available on the net " (J. Byrum). Another indicator of the level of interest in FRBR is the number of connections to the Web version of FRBR report (5237 between January 2000-October 2000, rank 8th <1165 in January - rank 2nd, 1746 in March - rank 3rd, 1578 in September - rank - 4th and 1548 in October - rank 4th >)
The European Library Automation Group (ELAG) was very active in this area. The FRBR subject has been discussed by ELAG since the study's publication at ELAG workshops in 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001, and several presentations were done (L. Holm, 1999 ; P. Le Bœuf, 2001). During the 2000 Workshop some common features were discussed between archives, libraries, and museums.

The FRBR impact is also very important within several national professional forums for example within AIB – (Assoziacione Italiana Biblioteche), within the Scandinavian countries, in Australia, etc. France has also undertaken the discussion on this topic within AFNOR – Association Française de Normalisation, in BNF etc. During the Section's Open sessions at IFLA annual conferences, we regularly provided FRBR presentations (P.Noerr, 1998 ; E.Murtomaa. 1998, K.Strunck, 1999). This year we will hear Patrick Le Bœuf, who didn't cite his own paper given the last June 6th during the annual conference ELAG 2001, perhaps because of modesty ? [7] Also the projects of the Section and the Division IV like the Working Group on Minimal Level Authority Records and the ISADN (MLAR), the FRANAR Working Group (Functional Requirements for Authority Numbers and Records, and the Working Groups on the ISBD revisions, had all taken into consideration the FRBR concept and model.

This year 2001 I end my service to the Section. It was an honour and a pleasure to serve as secretary for 4 years. I hope that I did not disappoint you despite some small difficulties. I did my best and what I could. This period permitted me to get to know better the ins and outs of IFLA, to make new acquaintances and friendships with colleagues from all over the world. Would you allow me, finally, to thank all the people who assisted me since my beginnings and who encouraged me professionally during this period of 12 years (including the first one when I was an observer and then member of the Section), in particular: Nancy John, Olivia Madison, Susanne Jouguelet, Ingrid Parent, Dorothy McGarry, John Byrum, Marie-France Plassard, and two lasts chairs of the Section and the Division, Barbara Tillett et Ia McIlwaine. I thank all the members of the Standing Committee for your confidence in me.

Maria Witt, Juin 01

References

[1] Structures of corporate name headings : final report, November 2000 / IFLA Section on Cataloguing, Working Group on the Revision of FSCH ; compiled and introduced by Ton Hejligers. – IFLA, UBCIM Programme 2001. - 21 p.

[2] Guidelines for authority records and references. 2nd ed. revised by the IFLA Working Group on GARE Revision. – München : K.G.Saur, 2001. - XII-46 p. – (UBCIM Publications). Formerly Guidelines for authority and reference entries…

[3] Languages represented : Catalan, Czech Croate, Dutch,, Finnish, French, Hungarian, Italian, Letton, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish

[4] The Jerusalem conference interested many participants and the attendance was good. We hope that this year the program will also be interesting.
Thème "Positionning Cataloguing for the Future", Catalogiung Open Forum, Wednesday August 22rd, 8.30 to 11, meeting number 152a:

- Monika Münnich (Germany) –Progress on the Multilingual Dictionary of Cataloguing Terms and Concepts ;
- Françoise Bourdon (France) – Spécifications fonctionnelles et numérotation internationale des notices d'autorité (FRANAR) : jusqu'ou le contrôle d'autorité peut-il être secondé par la technique ? = New view of UBC and FRANAR proposals ;
- Barbara Tillett (USA) A Virtual International Authority File ;
- Patrick Le Bœuf (France) – L'impact du modèle FRBR sur les révisions à venir des ISBD : un défi pour la Section de catalogage de l'IFLA = The Impact of the FRBR Model on the Future Revisions of the ISBDs : a Challenge for the IFLA Section on Cataloguing

[5] source : Selected IFLANET Statistics January 2000-October 2000. Joint EB/PB/Activities meeting, December 6, 2000)

[6] FRBR Seminar : Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records : [International Conference] Florence, 27-28 January 2000. Proceedings edited by Mauro Guerrini. - Rome, AIB 2000. - 156-160 p. – Proceedings in English and Italian. (During this conference the members of the Section gave presented papers : Olivia Madison <chair of the Study Group> and John Byrum <member of the FRBR Study Group>, and Isa de Pinedo).

[7] FRBR : toward some practical experience in ELAG ? / Patrick Le Bœuf. Paper presented at the 25th ELAG Annual Conference , Prague, 6-8 juin 2001 <http ://www.stk.cz/elag2001/> ; See also the bibliography of Le Bœuf's IFLA 2001 presentation, 15 ref.